

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, December 1, 2020)
Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, December 2, 2020

1. COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY AND ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (VIA WEBEX)

Members Present

Commissioner President James R. Guy (Via Teleconference)
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner John E. O'Connor (Via Webex)
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
ALisa Casas, Communications Director, Public Information Office

Board of Education (Via Webex)

Mrs. Karin Bailey, Chairwoman
Mrs. Cathy Allen
Mrs. Rita Weaver
Mrs. Mary Washington
Mr. James Davis
Dr. J. Scott Smith, Superintendent
Tammy McCourt, Assistant Superintendent of Fiscal Services and Human Resources
Dr. Jeff Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Supporting Services

Commissioner Colvin opened the joint meeting of the St. Mary's County Commissioners and the St. Mary's County Board of Education at 9:01 a.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Following the opening remarks and introductions, the following presentations were provided: COVID-19 Update, 2020 Student Enrollment, FY2020 SMCPS Audit, and the Negotiated Agreement.

2. ADJOURN

Following closing remarks by Commissioner Colvin and Mrs. Bailey, the meeting closed at 10:08 am.

3. WELCOME

Members Present

Commissioner President James R. Guy (Via Teleconference)

Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner John E. O'Connor (Via Webex)
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
ALisa Casas, Communications Director, Public Information Office

Commissioner Colvin called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at approximately 10:30 a.m. in the Chesapeake meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Approval of Consent Agenda

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Minutes of November 17, 2020, as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

4. PRESENTATION

A commendation was presented to Eleanor Abell.

5. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Update

MOTION #1: I make the motion that we conduct a public hearing in the evening on January 5th, 2021 to discuss the whole legislative agenda regarding Emergency Services.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

MOTION #2: I make a motion that we proceed with a bond bill for funding the sports complex in St. Mary's County, Maryland in the amount of \$150,000.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

I move to adjourn as the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and reconvene as the St. Mary's County Board of Health.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

6. ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

A. BOARD OF HEALTH

Present: Dr. Meenakshi Brewster, Health Officer

Dr. Brewster discussed the COVID-19 data on the Health Department's Website. There have been 2,350 COVID-19 cases in St. Mary's County with 62 COVID-19 related deaths. Thirty percent of county residents have been tested and the positivity rate has increased. There are Covid outbreaks at all three long term care facilities. At this time, major sources of community spread of the COVID-19 virus are family gatherings, dinner parties, workplaces, sporting/recreational activities, and events.

B. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - Health Department FY2021 Allocation Review

I move to approve the St. Mary's County Health Department FY2021 Plan of Action and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

I move to adjourn as St. Mary's County Board of Health and reconvene as the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR DECEMBER 8 AND 15, 2020.

B. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Amendment to Agreement with University of Maryland to Operate TechPort Business Incubator

I move to approve the First Amendment for Renewal of the Business Incubator Agreement with the University of Maryland and Commissioners of St. Mary's County and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

C. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - Hiring Freeze Exemption Requests

I move to approve the hiring freeze exemption requests from the Departments of Finance and Human Resources as recommended by the County Administrator.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

D. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Nuisance Flood Plan (Adjunct Planning Supplement to the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan)

I move to approve the proposed Nuisance Flood Plan adding an annual reporting component and authorize the Department of Public Works and Transportation to transmit the amended plan to the Maryland Department of Planning.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

E. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Speed Ordinances for Herring Creek Road and Finnacom Road

I move to adopt the Ordinances to reduce the maximum speed on Herring Creek Road and Finnacom Road.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

F. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES - Briefing - Status of Supplemental Staffing of Volunteer Rescue Squads.

Present: Steve Walker, Director
Dr. Dan Geary, Jurisdictional Medical Director

Mr. Walker discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the Volunteer Rescue Squads and the need to add supplemental contract staffing. The additional staffing has already improved ambulance response time. Dr. Geary provided his perspective on preserving the volunteer system and the importance to provide excellent quality of care for the patients in St. Mary's County.

8. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events over the past week and provided general comments.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into Closed Session to discuss Personnel, Boards Commissions and Committees.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

9. CLOSED SESSION

A. PERSONNEL

Present: Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Diane Gleisner, Coordinator
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 1:40 p.m. to 2:12 p.m.

Location: CSMC Meeting Room

Purpose: To consider or discuss the appointment of a member of a public agency or employee, unless the individual as a matter of public record makes a written request for an open session.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:12 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on December 8, 2020.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

11. PUBLIC HEARING

Members Present

Commissioner President James R. Guy (Via Teleconference)
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
ALisa Casas, Communications Director, Public Information Office

A. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - Amendment to St. Mary's County Code for 2020 LOSAP benefit credit

Commissioner Colvin opened the Public Hearing at approximately 6:01 p.m.

Present: Catherine Pratson, Director

Notice of Public Hearing was published in *The Southern Maryland News* on November 13, and November 20, 2020.

A public hearing was held to receive public comments for the consideration to provide a blanket 25 LOSAP points be awarded to all volunteers who earned 50 LOSAP points in 2019.

Commissioner Colvin requested Dr. Bridgett provide the format for the public hearing and open the hearing for public comment. No public comment was given. Dr. Bridgett closed the public hearing for public comment noting that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. The public hearing closed approximately at 6:08 p.m.